

**STATE SENATOR • HANSEN CLARKE • 1ST DISTRICT**

# **Clarke Press Release**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
JULY 3, 2003

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## **SEN. CLARKE: GOP TAKES ANOTHER \$14.5 MILLION FROM DETROIT**

**Struggling City Hammered Again By Republican Changes to Revenue Sharing Formula**

LANSING- Lansing Republicans, seeking to shield their own districts from the full impact of the state budget crisis, continue to view the city of Detroit as their personal piggy bank, says a Detroit Democrat. State Senator Hansen Clarke made his comments after House Republicans made additional changes to the state revenue sharing formula which will cost Detroit another \$14.5 million in state assistance.

“Every time Lansing Republicans are faced with tough choices on how finance one of their pet projects they look to Detroit for the money,” said Sen. Clarke. “Detroit is struggling to get back on its feet and simply can not afford to be used as anyone’s piggy bank.”

The Republican controlled Legislature has already raided the Detroit Public Library, Detroit Institute of Arts, and Focus: HOPE budgets to find money for pet projects and programs. The GOP also recently removed a revenue sharing freeze which will cost Detroit millions. This latest change to the revenue sharing formula will mean another \$14.5 million worth of city services will have to be slashed.

“I think the legislators who are targeting Detroit to fund other programs would reconsider if they would just come down to my district and see the level of poverty and witness firsthand how vital

these programs really are,” said Sen. Clarke. “The sad thing is that real people suffer when essential city services and programs are eliminated.”

Sen. Clarke is attempting to get the revenue sharing changes removed in conference committee.

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